

Σεβασμιώτατε Μητροπολίτα,

Ἐξοχώτατε Πρεσβευτέ.

Κυρίες καὶ Κύριοι.

Αἰσθανδμεθα εύτυχισμένοι πού ήλθατε να τιμήσετε την ἑτησιον χορδν μας, καὶ να ἀπολαύσωμεν μαζὲ τὴν διασκέδασιν μας, συμφώνως μὲ τὰ Ἐθνικά παραδόσεις μας.

Ἐφέτος δμως στολίζει την χορδν μας, μία ἐξέχοθσα Ἑλληνικήν προσωπικότητα.

Ο Σεβασμιώτατος Μητροπολίτης μας, κ. Παῦλος, ὁ ὅποῖος ἐκπροσωπεῖ δλοκλήρον τὴν λαμπρὰν δρᾶσιν τῆς Χριστιανικῆς Ὁρθοδοξίας, εἰς τὴν ὅποιαν τὸ Ἐθνος μας ὀφείλει τὴν ἐπιβίωσιν του, ἐκ τῶν ἔχθρῶν του, καὶ ἰδίως ἐκ τῆς Τουρκοκρατίας, καὶ μᾶς ἐδραΐωσε αἰώνιως την ὑπέρλαμπρον Ὁρθόδοξον Χριστιανικὸν Πνευματισμὸν μας, καὶ τὴν ψυχικόν μας, πλοῦτον.

Μᾶς δυναμώνει τὰς ἀναμνήσεις μας, πρὸς τὴν πολιτισμένην Ἑλληνικήν καταγωγήν μας, δπου μᾶς ἐνθαρρύνει διὰ τὸ λαμπρὸν μέλλον μας.

Καὶ ἴδοι, αὐτῇ ἡ θαυμασία Κοινοτικήν μας Ἐστία βαδίζει γρήγορα πρὸς τὴν ἐξδιλησιν, ἐνεκα πού μᾶς βοηθήσατε, καὶ δπου θὰ μᾶς βοηθήσετε δλοι.

Τὸ ἐκπαιδευτικὸν ζῆτημα, πρὸς ἐκμάνθησιν τῆς Ἑλληνικῆς γλώσσης, καὶ τῆς Ἰστορίας μας, εἰς τὰ παιδιά μας, προχωρεῖ σταθερῶς μὲ ἄριστα ἀποτελέσματα.

Θερμῶς εὐχαριστοῦμεν την Ἑλληνικόν την πον τῶν ἔδῶ ἐφημερίδων, διὰ τὴν ὑποστήριξιν δπου πάντοτε μᾶς κάνει.

Ἐπίσης εὐχαριστῶ τοὺς ἀξιοτίμους καὶ σεβαστούς μου συμβούλους, καὶ τὰ μέλη τῆς Κοινότητος μας, ~~με την αύλα της Κοινότητας~~  
~~καὶ την αύλα της Κοινότητας~~.

Καὶ τώρα εὐχόμενα καλήν διασκέδασιν.

Χαιρετισμὸς ἀπὸ την ἑτησιον χορδν.

Αλμπερτον 14- 5 - 1969.

SPEECH

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Your Grace, Archbishop Paul, Representatives of the Hellenic Royal Embassy, Mr. Mavrides and Mrs. Mavrides, Mr. Mayor, Mrs. Ligthelm, Chairman of the various Hellenic Organisations, Guests.

It is indeed once again a privilege to be able to extend a hearty welcome to you all this evening. Your support is indeed most appreciated. There is, Ladies and Gentlemen, no need to ramify the purpose of the existence of the Hellenic Community of Alberton, as this factor has been mentioned on numerous occasions. Moreover, you are all aware of our motives which include ecclesiastical, scholastic, philanthropic and cultural activities.

I must, in this instance, extend a hearty welcome to His Grace Archbishop Paul, who has visited us for the first time since his enthronement. At the same time I express my regret that our new Ambassador Mr. Economides, could not be with us this evening although I am indeed very pleased to say that at last Greece has appointed an Ambassador to South Africa, which I am sure we all undoubtedly agree, can only strengthen the already strong bonds that exist between our two countries.

A special word of gratitude must be mentioned to our supporters of the Dance Programme as I am sure you are all aware, they contribute tremendously towards our financial sources which we need in the running of our everyday communal affairs.

I must this evening, also extend a sincere welcome and thank you, to Mr. & Mrs. Jack Steyl. Since the formation of our community I have known them to have missed one function only. Mr. Jack Steyl, our local M.P.C. please accept the sincere gratitude of the Alberton Hellenic Community for your unfailing support, your presence, and the fact that we know that we can always approach you as one of the country's leading citizens, for any guidance we may need is indeed something that this community would not like to be the poorer of.

A sincere word of gratitude and appreciation must be mentioned with regard to Mrs. Mary Tsubisie, the well known personality, for the time and effort she has spent in aiding towards retaining some of our Greek Heritage.

As for the Town Council of Alberton, Mr. Mayor, Please accept our sincere gratitude for all the support you have afforded us in the past.

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Meneer die Burgemeester, ek is oortuig daarvan dat u en u raad met my sal saamstem as ek sê dat hierdie sentrum hom die afgelope jaar bewys het as 'n noodsaaklikheid vir Alberton.

Funksies deur u raad - die plaaslike skole - verskillende Suid Afrikaanse kultuur vereenigings - en so meer - is van tyd tot tyd hier gehou.

Wat betref die Griekse Gemeenskap van Alberton, is ons bly om te sê dat sommige van ons doelstellings reeds bereik is. Die feit dat ons 'n sentrum het waar ons, ons immigrante kan ontvang was een van die groot behoeftes. Ons doel is om hulle in te lig omtrent hulle nuwe huisland en sodoende te poog om hulle 'n aanwinst vir Suid Afrika te maak.

Ek wil ook graag my innige en opregte dank uitspreek teenoor u almal hier vanaand - vir u ondersteuning tot dusver - en ek wil die hoop uitspreek dat ons steeds hierdie goeie en vriendskaplike manier van samewerking sal handhaaf.

Ek hoop u geniet die aand en ons sien daarna uit om volgende jaar weer hier saam te wees.